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SENT TO: Amembassy, JIDDA 117

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Deptel 77 611.86a/8-755

You may now inform SAG request to purchase eighteen M-41 tanks approved under provisions MDA Agreement and in accordance with MAAG recommendation that tanks required for training. It may be fruitful seek audience and first inform King personally. In order prevent any speculation US decision tied to Soviet arms offer, you may wish to stress delayed decision has been due to many considerations involved in supplying heavy military equipment Middle East. You may state approval this shipment urged successfully in view long special US Saudi relations.

Information re availability, time and delivery to follow. NEACC has been informed.

Formal reply Saudi Embassy's note this subject being withheld until you have informed King.

Drafted by: NEA:NE:DDNewsom:apg

8/30/55

**Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:**

Herbert Hoover, Jr

Clearances:
NEA - Mr. Stephens
(in draft) (1)

S/MSA - Mr. Ellis
(in draft)

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